



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/745,598

12/21/2000

Xiaoshu Qian

42390.P8730

1193

8791

7590

05/18/2005

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

SEVENTH FLOOR

LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, LAWRENCE B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2634

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/745,598

Applicant(s)

QIAN ET AL.

Examiner

Lawrence B Williams

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed on 01 February 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 11, 16, 19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 11, 16, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 11, 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahoney (US Patent 6,360,369 B1) in view of Kloker et al. (US Patent 4,475,812) and further in view of applicant's prior art.

(1) With regard to claim 1, Mahoney discloses in Figs. 2-5, a filter comprising: at least one multiplier (Fig. 4, 405, 406) to multiply samples of an input discrete-time signal by a set of filter weights to provide a resulting discrete-time signal, wherein the filter weights are the convolution of a set of Nyquist filter weights with a set of pre-equalizer filter weights (col. 8, lines 3-31); and at least one adder (416) to add samples of the resulting discrete-time signal.

Mahoney does not disclose wherein each of the at least one multiplier is a 2 bit by J bit multiplier, where J is greater than two.

Art Unit: 2634

However, Kloker et al. teaches an X by Y bit multiplier circuit, where X and Y are integers for typical use in a digital filter (abstract; col. 1, lines 12-18).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the method as taught by Kloker et al. to modify the invention of Mahoney to incorporate the use of an improved multiplier circuit with improved speed (col. 2, lines 10-20).

Neither Mahoney nor Kloker et al. teach a digital to analog converter to convert the added samples to analog values; and an interface to transmit the analog values.

However applicant's prior art teaches digital to analog converter to convert the added samples to analog values; and an interface to transmit the analog values.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Mahoney in combination with Kloker et al. with those of applicant's prior art as a method of blocking ingress (in the cable modem) in the low frequency range from in-house wiring.

(2) With regard to claim 11, claim 11 inherits all limitations of claim 1 above as claim 11 cites the method implemented Mahoney in combination with Kloker et al. in further view of applicant's admitted prior art.

(3) With regard to claim 16, claim 16 inherits all limitations of claims 1 and 11. Though there is no explicit disclosure for use of the invention in a computer system, Mahoney does disclose the modem as a cable modem (abstract). The use of cable modems and modem functions are well known in today's technological advancement.

4. Claims 19, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahoney (US Patent 6,360,369 B1) in view of Applicant's Prior Art.

(1) With regard to claim 19, Mahoney discloses in Figs. 2-5, an apparatus for processing a series of two-bit binary samples comprising: means for delaying (FFT, 404) at least one sample so that a plurality of samples can be manipulated simultaneously; means for multiplying (405, 406) a plurality of samples by a plurality of coefficients to produce a plurality of products; means (416) for computing a sum of the plurality of products; and wherein the plurality of coefficients is a convolution of a set of Nyquist filter weights with a set of pre-equalizer filter weights (col. 8, lines 3-31). Mahoney does not however disclose means for converting the sum to an analog value; and means for coupling the analog value onto a cable.

However applicant prior art teaches means for converting the sum to an analog value; and means for coupling the analog value onto a cable.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Mahoney with those of applicant's prior art as a method of blocking ingress (in the cable modem) in the low frequency range from in-house wiring.

(2) With regard to claim 20, applicant's prior art also discloses wherein each coefficient of the plurality of coefficients is a 10-bit number (pg. 3, lines 5-10).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

Art Unit: 2634

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence B Williams whose telephone number is 571-272-3037. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 571-272-3056. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lawrence B. Williams

lbw
May 10, 2005


AMANDA T. LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER